American Government Chapter 5 Test Study Guide

Due Monday, September 23

Be able to match these vocabulary terms with their definition:

Ward, Precinct, Congressional Districts, Electorate, Minor Party, Major Parties, Plurality, Political Party, Split-Ticket Voting, Splinter Parties, Single-issue Parties, Bipartisan, Coalition, Partisanship, Consensus

List 5 functions of political parties: (5pts)

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

Briefly explain the historical basis of the two-party system in the United States. (2pts)

Describe a two-party system: (2pts)

Describe a multiparty system: (2 pts)

Describe a one-party system: (2pts)

List the years of the four major periods of the American party system and which party was dominant: (8pts)

1)

2)

3)

4)

List and briefly describe four distinct types of minor parties: (8pts)

1)

2)

3)

4)

Define “spoiler role” and give one example. (2pts)

Federalism is a major reason for the decentralized nature of the two political parties. Cite the definition of federalism from the dictionary in the back of your book. (2pts)

At national level, both parties are composed of 5 basic elements. List them: (5pts)

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

In most states, party structure is decentralized, much as it is at the national level. It is usually built around a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ headed by a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (2pts)

For the test, writing, be prepared to:

1) Explain how minor parties work to strengthen the two-party system.

2) List six reasons third/minor parties do not win elections in the United States.